

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-30 (Cancelled).

31. (Currently Amended) A method of extracting a root of a tooth, comprising:

inserting a pin into the root and affixing the pin to the root;

connecting a flexible pulling element to the pin affixed to the root by hooking the pulling element into the pin, the pulling element comprising one of a wire, a string, or a rope bent at a substantially right angle along a diverting part, the pulling element being functionally linked to a tensioning device; ~~and~~

applying a pulling force to the root via the pulling element using the tensioning device so as to extract the root, wherein the pulling force is transmitted from a portion of the pulling element at the diverting part to the root via the pulling element in a direction substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the root, and is transmitted from the tensioning device to the portion of the pulling element at the diverting part via the pulling element in a direction substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the root, the tensioning device being partially inserted into and supported in the mouth

hooking the pulling element into the tensioning device;

pre-tensioning the pulling element between the pin and the tensioning device before hooking the pulling element to the pin or the tensioning device, said pre-tensioning comprising adjusting a tensioning support moveable substantially at a right angle in relation to the longitudinal axis of the root, the tensioning support being adjustable in relation to a base body of the tensioning device; and

loosening the root by sudden activation of the tensioning support prior to said applying the pulling force to extract the root.

Claims 32-34 (Cancelled).

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~34~~ 31, wherein said applying the pulling force to extract the root comprises turning a ribbed nut engaging a threaded bolt connected to the tensioning support, the threaded bolt being supported on a base body.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein said affixing the pin to the root comprises inserting a threaded pin into the root along the longitudinal axis of the root.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein said connecting the flexible pulling element to the pin comprises connecting a first end of the pulling element to the pin, a second end of the pulling element opposite the first end being functionally linked to the tensioning device, the diverting part being located between the first end and the second end.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising initial loosening of the root within the periodontal gap before said applying the pulling force to extract the root.

Claims 39-46 (Cancelled).